

Greater Washington Urban League, Inc.

Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

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Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

My name is George Lambert. I currently serve as the President and CEO of the Greater Washington Urban League. The Urban League is a major interracial, nonpartisan, nonprofit social services and civil rights organization with a mission to increase the economic and political empowerment of blacks and other minorities. We provide direct services and advocacy to more than 65,000 individuals.

I am writing to express my full support for the Time Warner Cable Company and Comcast proposed transaction. I can speak first hand to the commitment that Comcast has shown toward improving our communities, promoting diversity and inclusion, as well as creating sound economic impacts and employment opportunities. The company is also an exemplary video and broadband provider inside the Beltway.

Comcast has dedicated itself to advancing organizations like ours through financial support and partnerships. Comcast has supported us in the promotion of digital literacy, community service, and leadership programs for students that will build our future. Our digital literacy education program is focused on helping local youth gain knowledge of, and access to, computers through a series of interactive workshops that take place throughout the school year. We were also able to purchase tablets and e-readers for these youth enabling them to so that they can keep up with current trends in education toward electronic curriculums, and "anytime anywhere" access to educational materials.

Website: www.gwul.org

Comcast's commitment to the Greater Washington Urban League is part of a larger narrative in the effort toward expanding broadband adoption and decreasing the digital divide, which disproportionately affects families of color in low-income neighborhoods. Since 2011, Comcast's groundbreaking Internet Essentials Program has worked to provide affordable access to broadband internet to low-income families. Internet Essentials, intended only as a three-year experiment, has recently been extended indefinitely due to the overwhelming success it has experienced. Since launching, the program has connected around 300,000 families to the internet, many for the first time.

In District of Columbia, 127 households were connected to the program in its first year. That number has increased to over 1,000, and continues to grow. I can't stress how important it is that we continue to do everything in our power to ensure that children nationwide gain access to the Internet, and are educated to be digitally literate. If the transaction is approved, Comcast will be able to apply its Internet Essentials program to many thousands of families in Time Warner Cable markets, like New York, Los Angeles, and Dallas, to name a few.

The low-income families in these areas deserve the same opportunities that Comcast provides for communities and families currently within its markets. If approved, the transaction will allow Comcast to expand its philanthropic reach to many more communities across the nation. I know that Comcast is committed to decreasing the digital divide, and I am optimistic and excited for the future.

Sincerely,

George H. Lambert, Jr.

President and CEO